Life is good in Iceland

Iceland is an **island** in the North Atlantic Ocean. It is between Greenland and Norway. It is part of Europe. This country has a population of about **a quarter of** a million people. Most of the people live in towns. Reykjavik is the **capital** and the largest city.

Iceland is not as cold as its name sounds. The **temperature** in January in Reykjavik is the same as in New York city. Icelanders speak Icelandic, which is **similar to** German, but 99 percent of Icelanders also speak English.

Icelanders are the hardest workers in Europe. They work the longest hours. Many people have two or three jobs, and children work during school vacations. Icelanders work hard because life is very expensive, and they want a **high quality of life**. Iceland is the most expensive country in Europe. Iceland doesn't make cars or machines. Many of these things come from other countries. That is why they are expensive. However, Iceland has a lot of fish, so fish is not expensive.

Icelanders have a great system for health and education. Health care and education are free. All children must go to school from age 6 to age 16. Every person in Iceland can read and write. Icelanders read a lot. They read more books than any other people in the world. Icelanders are healthy, too. The air is clean there because people get natural hot water from the ground to **heat** their homes. With clean air and good health care system, Icelanders live long lives. Men in Iceland live the longest lives of any men in the world.

Iceland is a great country. The air is clean. People live long. There is almost no **crime**. Icelanders have a high quality of life, but they work hard!